News from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services



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No Health Risk From Exposure to Debris From Mohawk Tannery Fire

Concord, NH – The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Service (DES) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today that analytical test results indicate no health risks from exposure to the debris associated with the fire at the Mohawk Tannery in Nashua. Due to the age of the building concerns were expressed that asbestos may have been used in its construction. None of the 12 debris samples collected from neighboring properties tested positive for asbestos fibers. Additionally, four air samples were collected, of which only one detected a very low level of asbestos fibers. The levels detected do not pose a health risk, and were well below the normal screening level used by DES to evaluate asbestos fiber content in the ambient (open) air.